



U.S. Department of Justice

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **23-Year-Old Man Sentenced to Twenty-Eight Years for His Role in a 2006 Double Slaying in the Benning Terrace Neighborhood**

**WASHINGTON, DC** – Sabir Lynch, 23, was sentenced on June 4, 2010, by the Honorable Lynn E. Leibovitz of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia to a total of 28 years incarceration, to be followed by five years supervised release, for his role in the July 24, 2006, double shooting in the 4700 block of Alabama Avenue, SE, that resulted in the deaths of 17-year old Ronnie Garner and 21-year-old Terrell Jones, announced United States Attorney Ronald C. Machen today. The sentence follows a jury's guilty verdict on March 18, 2010, on counts of Voluntary Manslaughter while Armed, two counts of Possession of a Firearm During a Crime of Violence, and Carrying a Pistol without a Licence.

According to evidence introduced at trial, during the early morning hours of July 24, 2006, defendant Sabir Lynch awoke to discover that his older model Ford Thunderbird had been stolen. In response, Mr. Lynch drove to the Benning Terrace neighborhood in Southeast, D.C., looking for Ronnie Garner, who he suspected of stealing his car. During his search, he solicited and obtained the assistance of two individuals, one of whom he asked to supply a gun. At approximately 9:08 a.m., and while accompanied by at least one other individual, Mr. Lynch drove into the 4700 block of Alabama Avenue, SE, driving a dark colored truck whose windows were heavily tinted. There he found Ronnie Garner and Terrell Jones,.

At first, Ronnie Garner and Terrell Jones were unaware of who was inside the truck, and pulled out guns. However, after the front passenger window of the truck was rolled down and the two men saw Lynch in the driver seat, they put their guns away. Lynch then called Ronnie Garner to the truck and accused him of stealing his car. During an ensuing exchange of words, shots were fired from inside the truck striking Ronnie Garner in the head and starting a gun battle between Terrell Jones and at least one individual inside the truck. During the gun battle, Terrell Jones was shot in the chest. Lynch and his accomplice went unscathed and fled the area. Subsequently, both Ronnie Garner and Terrell Jones died from their injuries.

In announcing today's sentence, U.S. Attorney Taylor praised the outstanding work of Metropolitan Police Department Violent Crime Branch Detectives Douglas Carlson, Paul Regan, and Earl Delauder, Violent Crime Branch Sergeant Walter Fleming, Sixth District Sergeant Maurice King, First District Detective Thomas Smith, Forensic Science Division Technicians Jay Gregory, James Holder, John Holder, David Murray, Brenda Floyd, and Mary Turner, and former technician Dawn Leary. He also recognized the tremendous and relentless work of the many members of the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia, including paralegals Anthony Griffith, Richard Cheatham, and Phil Aronson, litigation support specialists Thomas Royal, Kimberly Smith, and Paul Howell, victim/witness assistants Marcia L. Rinker and Katina Adams, and Assistant United States Attorneys Michelle D. Jackson and Steven Swaney who prosecuted the case.